

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on 25 January 2006, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-15 and 17-21. Claims 1-15 and 17-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Primis (“Primis Custom Publishing, web pages describing product features, dated circa 1998, Pages 1-12,” hereinafter “Primis”).

Examiner subsequently rejected Applicant’s response of 23 March 2006 in an Advisory Action mailed on **07 March 2006**, arguing that Primis teaches all of the claimed limitations.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Independent claims 1, 14, 15, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Primis.

Applicant respectfully points out Primis only teaches a system wherein users select material from a library and manually assemble the material into an “e-book.” For example, a professor can create custom textbooks from McGraw-Hill content and their partners content (see McGraw-Hill “eBooks in Higher Education: What We Have Learned... Where are we going?,” page 2, hereinafter “McGraw-Hill”). The custom textbook created by the professor is then made commercially available to students using the MHHE website (see McGraw-Hill, page 6-7). Hence, Primis is essentially a web-based utility which allows a user to virtually “cut-and-paste” sections from a library of documents in order to create a larger document (an “e-book”). **Nothing within Primis suggests a system that automatically parses or organizes the topics within the electronic documents.**

On the other hand, one embodiment of the present invention takes as input series of documents in any of a number of document formats (see page 6, page 9, and FIG. 1B of the instant application). The system parses these documents using physical attributes such as directory and file names, anchor names, section titles, heading levels (e.g., how many levels of headings are contained in a file),

locations of indices, glossaries and other physical attributes of the document to gather meta-information representing the physical attributes of the document (see FIG. 2, element 202 and page 17, lines 16-22 of the instant application). The system then stores the meta-information in a database (see FIG. 2, element 204 and page 17, lines 22-27 of the instant application).

The system subsequently uses the stored meta-information and the headings/sub-headings from the electronically stored documentation to generate a list of topics that may be used to organize a virtual book (see page 6, page 17, lines 16-22, and FIG. 2, elements 202 and 206 of the instant application).

The system also uses the stored meta-information and the list of topics to help compose a virtual book specifically tailored to the user based on the subject that the user requested and the characteristics of the user (see page 17, lines 16-22, page 10, page 18, and FIG. 2, elements 216 and 218 of the instant application). With a specifically tailored virtual book, the user avoids the need to search multiple sources for information. In addition, if the user has a question that the virtual book does not properly answer, the user need request a book on a slightly different topic and the system can generate another virtual book based on the new request.

Parsing the electronic documentation to gather the meta-information is beneficial because the meta-information contains a comprehensive list of physical attributes for the electronically stored documents that significantly increase the accuracy of the virtual book composed by the system.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 14, 15, and 17 to clarify that the system automatically parses the series of electronic documents to gather meta-information about the physical attributes of the file, wherein the meta-information is stored in a database and subsequently used to create a list of topics and to create the virtual book. The amendments find support on page 17, lines 16-27 and in FIG. 2 of the instant application. Applicant also amended claims 1, 14, 15, and 17 to clarify


that the system is automated. This amendment finds support in the abstract and throughout the detailed description on pages 4-21 of the instant application.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 14, 15, and 17 are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2-13, which depend upon claim 1, and claims 18-21, which depend upon claim 17, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims. Claim 16 was previously cancelled without prejudice.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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